

CHAIRMAN DANE MAXWELL

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION SOUTHERN DISTRICT

CONTACT:
Caroline Bishop
Public Information Officer
Caroline.bishop@psc.ms.gov
(601) 540-5938

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PSC Chairman Maxwell Announces Progress of MS Electric Cooperatives Broadband COVID-19 Act

This is part of the ongoing efforts to bring reliable, affordable internet services to rural Mississippi

(JACKSON, MS) – The Mississippi Public Service Commission along with the Public Utilities Staff have announced progress of the Mississippi Electric Cooperatives Broadband COVID-19 Act as of December 31, 2020.

- 3 total projects completed statewide
- All \$75 million of State granted funding has been spent
- 3,611 miles of fiber have been constructed

"I am very proud of the progress this program has made so far and what this grant money has done for our state," Chairman Dane Maxwell said. "We will continue to work on projects, partnerships and initiatives to further connect Mississippians to essential services like broadband internet."

Many Electric Cooperatives across the state are still in the process of filing for internet provider status with the PSC and more completed projects are expected throughout the state in 2021.

The Mississippi Electric Cooperatives Broadband COVID-19 Act was passed by the Mississippi Legislature last year making it the largest funding of rural broadband in state history. The PSC and Public Utilities Staff worked closely alongside Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann, Senator Joel Carter, Speaker Philip Gunn and Representative Scott Bounds to make this progress possible.

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